

such fragments as to forbid final determination, though the name given is probably correct. The Dinosaurian remains are most abundant, including fragments of many parts of the skeletons of several species. The *Cionodon stenopsis* is of about the size of the *C. arcatus*, Cope, but has a much diminished palatine face of the maxillary bone, and the teeth do not present the longitudinal keel on the lower part of the crown seen in the more southern saurian.

The species represent a portion of the fauna of the Fort Union Epoch, as observed in Dakota and Colorado, and the presence of *Dinosauria* demonstrates again its pertinence to the cretaceous period. The genus of tortoises *Compsemys*, Leidy, is peculiar to the Fort Union Epoch, while *Plastomenus*, Cope, belongs to the Eocene. Its presence in this fauna would constitute an important assimilation to the lower tertiary, but the specimens are not complete in some points necessary to a final reference. The species are in any case nearly allied to that genus.

There are, however, gar scales included in the collection, which closely resemble those of the genus *Clastes* of the lower Eocenes of the Rocky Mountains. This is empirically another indication of near connection with tertiary time, but not conclusive, since allied genera have a much earlier origin in mesozoic time. For the present their occurrence in this fauna cannot be regarded as of much weight in comparison with the presence of numerous *Dinosauria*, an order which in every other known portion of the earth perished with the age of ammonites and pterodactyles. Nevertheless the list of species, short as it is, indicates the future discovery of a complete transition from cretaceous to eocene life more clearly than any collection yet obtained marking this horizon in the West.

*Mineralogical Notes.*—Prof. Persifor Frazer, Jr., explained that in his communication of Dec. 22, 1874, for Diorite he meant Syenite. Prof. Frazer also spoke of some observations recently made by him on a specimen of Chlorite slate in which were found crystals of Oligoclase which were again found upon examination to contain other crystals of Chlorite slate.

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JANUARY 12.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Seventeen members present.

*The Herpetology of Florida.*—Prof. COPE made some remarks on the Batrachians and Reptiles of Florida. He stated that it formed a distinct subdivision of the Austroriparian region (see Gray's Atlas of the United States, 1873, for a review of the Geo-

graphical Distribution), the evidence furnished by the lower vertebrates confirming that derived from the higher vertebrata and the plants. There are fifteen species of Batrachia and Reptilia not found in any other part of North America; three of these occur in Cuba, but none elsewhere. He then stated that Mr. Meek had recently sent to the museum of the Smithsonian Institution a species of *Flaps*, the *E. distans* of Kennicott, which had been known previously from the Sonoran region only. This discovery might be associated with that of the western burrowing owl in Florida, and the fact that the Floridan *Ophibolus getulus* presents the same number of rows of scales as the black and white Ophiboli of the Sonoran region.

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JANUARY 19.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Twenty-four members present.

*On a Fungus in a Flamingo.*—Prof. LEIDY remarked that a pair of Flamingoes had recently died in the Garden of the Zoölogical Society at Fairmount Park. Dr. Chapman, who had dissected the birds, called his attention to the diseased condition of the lungs of one of them, the other not being affected in this respect. The posterior part of the lungs on both sides, contiguous to the abdominal air sacs, was occupied by an indurated brown substance, in striking contrast with the usual bright roseate hue of the neighboring pulmonary tissue. An incision made into the indurated substance exhibited a brown compact surface with greenish-black dots which corresponded with the bronchial tubes. On microscopical examination the substance was found to be pervaded with a fungous vegetation, and the greenish-black dots were due to the fruit heads profusely covered with colored spores.

Prof. Owen, upwards of forty years ago, mentioned the existence of a green mould he had observed in the lungs of a Flamingo, which died in the menagerie of the Zoölogical Society of London, but he gave no description of the plant by which we can recognize it. Since then many accounts have been given of the existence of fungous vegetation in the diseased lungs of various birds, but I think it has not been determined whether the diseased condition was due to the fungus, or whether this was a subsequent production.

The plant observed in our diseased Flamingo belongs to the Moulds or Mucedines, and is evidently an *Aspergillus*. A number of species of this genus have been described, growing on various decaying substances. The common Blue Mould found in cheese and bread kept in a damp place, is the *Aspergillus glaucus*. From this the mould of the Flamingo is quite distinct in the structure of